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SANITIZED VERSION

Cuba

NLK-76-384

21 October 1962

a. Photography obtained on 18 October reveals that construction is in progress on an installation suspected to be an additional surface-to-surface missile site near the town of Remedios in Las Villas province. The analysis is, however, preliminary; the count on SS sites of which we feel confident therefore still stands at six--four of them fitted with mobile-type launchers, two of the fixed type.

b. On the basis of a comparative study of all of the evidence to date, we feel we can refine our judgment as to the readiness state at these six sites. We conclude that work on the sites has been proceeding at an urgent but measured pace. Thus, while the four MRBM sites may now have an emergency operational capability, it does not appear that the Soviets set out to bring them to full operational status on a crash basis.

c. Of the two LRBM sites in the San Cristobal area, we believe that one may now have full operational readiness--the ability to launch in salvo four missiles per site and to fire another four within four to six hours. The second site could reach this condition by 25 October.

d. We estimate that the two sites near Sagua La Grande could be brought to full operational readiness by 1 November.

e. It is believed that work on the two fixed sites for the 2,200-nautical-mile missile in the Guanajay area is somewhat further along than previously thought. Although we cannot be categoric, we estimate that both sites could become operational during the first two weeks of December.

f. Work on the presumed nuclear storage facility near the Guanajay IRBM sites is continuing at a high rate. The rudiments of what may be similar facilities have also been observed in the vicinity of the San Cristobal and Sagua La Grande sites.